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US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5



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August 2, 2018

Via E-mail and UPS Next Day

Robert Kaplan, Esq.
Chief, Superfund Division
USEPA Region 5
77 West Jackson Blvd
Mail Code: R-19
Chicago, IL 60604

Re: The Alleged St. Louis Park Solvent Plume Site in Minnesota

Dear Bob:

My client, Daikin Applied Americas Inc., and another company called Super Radiator Coils, LLC, continue to oppose the application of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to seek NPL listing for what MPCA has dubbed the "St. Louis Park Solvent Plume Site". EPA is providing assistance to MPCA for investigation and documentation of this alleged "plume".

Our clients' opposition to the application is because of the inaccurate claims made by MPCA that it has traced contamination at an Edina, MN public drinking water supply well to a specific area of St. Louis Park. MPCA's own consultants have not been able to confirm the validity of the MPCA's flow hypothesis. Nevertheless, MPCA seeks listing of the 'Plume Site' on the NPL.

On May 24, 2017 we submitted to EPA Region 5 a Critique of the Preliminary Assessment that MPCA provided to EPA. Our consultants have now prepared, and we submit to you for the record and serious consideration, a Technical Review of the MPCA's Site Inspection Report that provides evidence from studies in MPCA's own files that MPCA's assertions about groundwater flow related to the alleged Plume Site are flawed and incomplete. (A copy of each report is enclosed.)

It is now fairly clear there is a regional contamination of drinking water aquifers in the Minneapolis suburbs. Such a situation is not unique to this urban area. Many dozens of commercial and industrial sources have been in operation over the past 70 or more years that likely had some chlorinated solvent releases. Likely suspects for contamination of the Edina well (including the Reilly Tar CERCLA site) were ignored by MPCA in its Preliminary Assessment analysis and those same sources are again ignored in its Site Inspection Report. We can point to several documented sources of significant contamination with likely flow paths to the Edina well that are ignored by MPCA, at locations both inside and outside MPCA's hypothetical plume boundary.

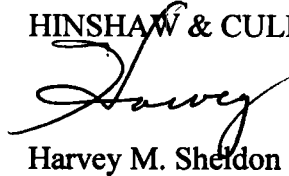
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Ignoring the apparent regional contamination and addressing the situation as if it is restricted to the fanciful Plume Site and comes from a specific area of St. Louis Park with unverified hydrological connections to the Edina well is a tragic mistake. Listing of this fantasy on the NPL would be a misapplication of scarce public funds. It does not address the true scope of the problem and any attempt by MPCA to prove the Plume Site's existence at our clients' expense would ultimately fail in a court of law or under proper independent scientific analysis.

Please review our Technical Review, enclosed. We very much want to meet with you and your staff about this situation in the near future. The subject deserves priority attention.

Sincerely,

HINSHAW & CULBERTSON LLP



Harvey M. Sheldon

Cc: William Hefner, Esq.

HMS:cln
Enclosures

